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serve in such rural institutions as directed by the Government for a certain period so that such things as have been pointed out in the question may not happen? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This suggestion has been made by several people on several occasions and this will be considered."

*Salaputhur Tank in Ginjee taluk.*

* 1886 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 261, given on 26th December 1953—

(*a*) the steps taken to restore the Salaputhur Tank in Nallanpillaipethal, Gingee taluk, South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the stage at which the matter stands now?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The supply and storage to the Salaputhur tank even at the present Full Tank Level is sufficient for irrigating the ayacut lands, which are also having as many as 85 wells to supplement the irrigation. Any further raising of the Full Tank Level will seriously affect the supply of water to the lower down Pakkam tank. For these reasons the proposal is not acceptable."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, in the year 1927, 150 acres were fixed as the ayacut for this tank. Two years ago, the Executive Engineer for Food Production who inspected this tank found that the tank capacity was only 50 acres. Thus, there is a gap of about 100 acres. May I know what are the steps taken by the Government to fill this gap of 100 acres? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" I do not understand how this gap arises."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" It is known very well, Sir, that every tank is silted up and this is the only reason why there is a gap of 100 acres. Is it not the duty of the Government to see that this gap is filled up? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir. The gap will be filled up by taking the silt and throwing it out."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know what is the significance of the word 'Nallanpillaipethal' occurring in the question? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" I also laughed over that word. The word probably means a woman giving birth to good male children."

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SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" My question is only a request to the Government to restore the tank and nothing else. I am not asking for increasing the ayacut of the tank. I want the Government to give instructions to the Collector to take steps to restore the tank early."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir, it can be done only by removing the silt and steps will be taken for that, if feasible."

*Sevalapuri reservoir, Gingee taluk.*

* 1887 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage of the progress of the investigation made for constructing a reservoir in Sankaraparani river at Sevalapuri village, Gingee taluk, South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the present stage of the proposal to include it in the Second Five-year Plan?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Gaugings of the river flows is being continued. Gaugings will be taken this year also before a decision as regards the availability of supply is arrived at.

" (*b*) As the scheme is not yet fully investigated and its feasibility determined, it is not yet ripe for consideration for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" When Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar was the Chief Minister of this State, he did his best to investigate this scheme of constructing a reservoir in Sankaraparani river at Sevalapuri village. But this scheme is still kept pending. It has been brought to the notice of the Collector and the Executive Engineer also during the Half-Yearly Irrigation Conferences. In spite of that, the Collector has not taken steps in the matter. May I therefore request the Hon. Minister to direct the Executive Engineer to take up the investigation of this scheme immediately? Gingee and Tindivanam are dry taluks in South Arcot district and therefore I am drawing the attention of the Government to this matter."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Chief Engineer has reported that no definite gaugings could be had from 1952 owing to drought conditions. So, it is only after 1952, gaugings could be taken. Readings will have to be taken next year, i.e., 1956 also before a definite decision can be taken as to the feasibility of the scheme. Unless we can get the figures relating to the workability of the scheme, we cannot proceed with it. We have to get the figures before we sanction the scheme."